

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 4, 1996**

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The Tin

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY FOR MORE THAN A

Council rips TKR action

**Resolution decries
shifting local station**

**By JEFF SAGNIP HOLLENDONNER
Staff Writer**

HAMILTON — The township council broadcast a clear message to TKR Cable Co. of Hamilton last night: We want our Hamilton TV.

The council flexed its muscles for local television station WZBN by passing a resolution urging TKR to keep WZBN in its current slot and schedule on cable Channel 25.

Councilman Jack Lacy charged that TKR had made a decision that would affect many people without any consideration of the public.

"I resent the high-handed way TKR has gone about this, without input from anyone," Lacy said. "The citizens want more local news, not less."

Lacy likened the move to the recent decision of Trenton State College to change its name to The College of New Jersey without first hearing comment from alumni.

Councilmen David Flood, who sponsored the WZBN resolution, said TKR chose a time when the council has no leverage.

"We are at a point when they have a signed franchise agreement, and they know it," Flood said. "We could have held it up in negotiations if we had any inkling that they would ever dump our local station."

• see CABLE, A8



Baghdad residents rally in support of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein yesterday.

N.J. lawmakers back attack

**By DONNA DE LA CRUZ
Associated Press**

TRENTON — President Clinton's decision to order a cruise missile strike against Iraqi military targets won support from Democrats and Republican members of New Jersey's congressional delegation, but some Republicans were careful not to praise Clinton too much.

Clinton said yesterday he ordered cruise missile attacks against Iraqi

air defense installations to send a blunt message to Saddam Hussein that "when you abuse your own people or threaten your neighbors, you must pay a price."

On Monday night, Clinton ordered the military to unleash 27 cruise missiles at military targets in southern Iraq, fulfilling a promise to punish Saddam Hussein for attacking Kurds in a U.N.-designated safe zone in northern Iraq. The bombing occurred early yesterday morning. A second round of attacks was

launched last night.

Clinton's decision from Democrats and Republican Rep. Ch Washington Township action against Saddam what he understands it got to let the Iraqi d that he cannot simply terms and agreement: President Bush after th

• see REACT, A12

Bank robber has busy day

INSIDE

First look



Staff photo by Michael Mancuso

instructor for the dental assistants' program at Mercer County Vocational School is showing one of her students touring the new dental lab, which is part of the Health Center expansion at the Hamilton facility. Dedication ceremonies were held yesterday at the intersection of Calhoun Way and Klockner Road. Students, from left, are Renee Gibbs, Jennifer DiFlorio, Jennifer D'Agosta, Rosemarie Dempsey and Consuela Gulley.

Washington condemns TKR action

WZBN a 'valuable voice' in township community

By CHRISTOPHER DAVIS
Staff Writer

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP — The members of the township committee stated their position in no uncertain terms: They want their ZBN.

The committee passed a resolution last night opposing the decision of TKR Cable Co. of Hamilton to cut the television broadcast of WZBN from 24 hours a day to about one hour. Officials of the news station have stated that TKR's planned action will unquestionably put WZBN out of business.

TKR of Hamilton is the exclusive cable provider for Washington Township.

"We are appealing to TKR to leave it on," Deputy Mayor Rosemary Pramuk said.

Committee member Glen Beebe agreed. "The problem is that, because of TKR, we'll lose a valuable voice for local news," he said. "Residents here rely on it."

"We don't get a lot of coverage, but it's nice to know they're there."

Pramuk and Beebe joined Mayor Nancy Tindall and Committeeman Joseph Odenheimer in voting to oppose TKR's move. Committeeman Vincent Calcagno was absent.

A WZBN camera crew videotaped the proceedings.

"We all know that larger communities like Trenton and Hamilton get more media coverage (than Washington Township)," Pramuk said. "But WZBN covers us anytime we ask them to do that."

"Since it's on 24 hours, someone who works three shifts a day can come home in the middle of the night and find out what's going on."

Odenheimer cited the educational value of the station.

"It's very educational," Odenheimer said. "It can get children involved in the issues even when they tune in to find school sports scores. But that leads to an interest in county, state, national and world issues."

"TKR should wake up and realize that this is a valuable educational tool."

Still searching for pair by shooting of boy

middle when shots were fired from a car by a man looking to settle a grudge, Deputy Police Chief Joseph Constance said yesterday.

Campbell was rushed to Mercer Medical Center where he was treated for his wound and kept overnight for observation, police said.

"I understand he is recovering well," Constance said.

Constance said police expect to make arrests soon in the shooting and the investigation is likely to lead to the arrests of people not involved in Wednesday's shooting, near the intersection of Calhoun Street, but who have participated in other crimes related to what he termed a feud between drug dealers.

"Of course it's about drugs," Con-

stance said. "Isn't everything any more? It seems like all the violent crimes and most of the property crimes are related to drugs."

Warrants were issued for the arrests of Rashawn Edward Cannon, 23, of the 400 block of West Hanover Street, the alleged shooter, and Delmar Francis Bethea, 24, of the 100 block of North Hermitage Avenue, the alleged driver of the small tan sedan from which the shots were fired, police said.

Constance vowed there would be an intense effort to capture the two men. "We have stakeouts, search teams and surveillance in place," Constance said yesterday. "We know that they are armed. We consider them dangerous."

Fired officer returns



William D. Mitchell

■ Obituary information, A12.

California to visit Doug Jr. — his oldest son — who is in his last year in school out there," Williams said of Mitchell, who was to have been an usher in his brother's wedding held Sunday. "The wedding went on as planned, which was good for the family because it helped ease some of the tension."

Mitchell, who grew up on Spring Street in Trenton, decided to become a police officer after completing a tour as a medic in the Navy. He married Lavern Willis in 1971 and they had two sons, Douglas and Marcus. The Mitchells celebrated their 25th anniversary earlier this year.

Always a hard worker, Mitchell did everything he could to provide a good life for his wife and children, McGrory said.

"He loved to talk about his family and we loved to hear about them. He made all their adventures sound so interesting," he said. "Doug worked hard for his family, but I think if we'd known that he was working that side job, we would have told him to take some time to smell the roses."

Staff writer Peter Page contributed to this report.

neimer and Deputy Mayor Rosemary Pramuk. Odenheimer is not running for re-election. Pramuk is running with Curtis Macysyn.

The Republicans defended Dill's appointment and his performance.

"Dill has already paid for his salary for at least the next two years with the money he has saved the township," Pramuk said. "He has saved us money through the new PBA contract, during the snowstorms last winter, in interlocal agreements and refinancing on bond sales.

"At one point in time, we had a management team with the township clerk, the police chief, housing official, engineer and the financial officer at the time running the township's business. They reported to the committee, we each took a department," Pramuk said. "And though we were elected to make policy and pass laws, we were run-

would be to their full-time jobs, the jobs that pay the bills. They are too dependent on the state."

Pramuk and Macysyn dismissed their claims. "This is the same tired, hackneyed, Democratic rhetoric I've heard for six years," said Pramuk, who was elected to the committee in 1990. "I work for the legislature, not the governor. Again, the other two candidates obviously don't know very much about government or how it works."

Macysyn said that his group will lobby the state administration, "but I'm not even on the state payroll. It's an unfair swipe," he said. "I do not agree with the contention that I have strong ties to the administration. I'm running as a Republican, and at times my views mesh with Whitman's. But I don't agree with their contention."

SEPT. 24, 1996 - TRENTON TIMES

Mayor backs embattled WZBN

By JOHN J. EDWARDS III
Staff Writer

TRENTON — As local news channel WZBN continues fighting to keep its 24-hour channel on TKR Cable of Hamilton, Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer and Council President William H. Young yesterday became the latest public officials to back the station's effort.

TKR, which serves Hamilton, Washington Township and Allentown Borough, plans to remove WZBN from Channel 25 on Oct. 8 and replace it with the new Fox all-news channel.

WZBN, which now broadcasts its daily "Mercer County Update" newscast 30 times a day, would be moved to public-access Channel 8 with its schedule trimmed to four evening broadcasts and a midnight-to-6 a.m. rotation. WZBN says the change would cut its advertising revenue so much that the station would go out of business.

At a City Hall press conference, Palmer said the loss of WZBN would affect Trenton as much as it would any other Mercer County community.

"Without WZBN, we lose one of the most critical means of communications and public information in the

capital city area," Palmer said. "Theirs is a critical voice and we cannot afford to see it silenced."

Young said he planned to sponsor a resolution backing WZBN and would write to TKR and to Hamilton Mayor Jack Rafferty on the issue. "It's vital that we have a WZBN to tell our story," Young said.

Rafferty and the Hamilton council already have expressed strong support for WZBN.

Palmer praised WZBN for its focus on positive local stories. "The only time the big networks would come to Trenton would be if a tragedy were to happen," he said.

Greg Zaroni, a co-owner of the station who operated its camera at the press conference, said WZBN is suing TKR for breach of contract. The station's agreement with the cable system specifies that WZBN will be allowed to provide programming of local interest, he said.

Darren Belick, area general manager of TKR, said the system plans to maintain in court that WZBN itself was noncompliant with the contract. WZBN was supposed to provide much more original, nonduplicative programming than it now does, he said.

"One-point-four hours out of a 168-hour week does not warrant a 24-hour channel," Belick said. Each WZBN newscast is 17 minutes long, or 22 minutes with commercials, he said.

Ek suspect robbery

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When the clerk did not respond to the man's order, he reached across the counter and forced open a drawer near the lottery machine, Petty said. The man grabbed about \$200 or \$300 from the drawer and then ran out of the store, fleeing east on Route 33, Petty said.

area. A police dog from the state Department of Corrections was called to assist and managed to track the suspect for about a mile through a wooded area before losing the trail, Petty said.

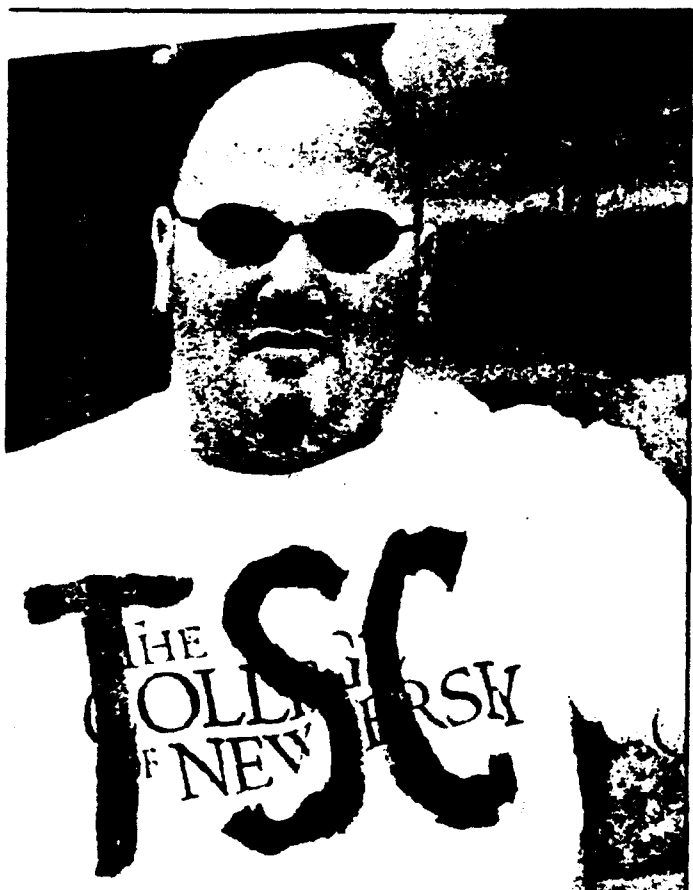
There were no injuries reported.

The suspect was described as white, between 17 and 20 years old, thin, between 5 feet 10 inches and 6 feet 1 inch tall, with no facial hair or glasses. He was wearing a white T-shirt and a dark-blue sweat shirt with a hood pulled over his head.

Petty and Patrolman Anthony Celentano are investigating. Any witnesses can call them at (609) 259-3900.



Trentonian Photo/JEFF ZELEVANSKY



WZBN seeks court order

Rival station delivering KO

By KIM HABAN
The Trentonian

HAMILTON — WZBN, a local news channel, is seeking a court order to save it from a cable company's business plan that could shut down the 3-year-old station next month.

Lawyers for the family-run news station are expected to file legal papers by the end of this week asking for a court injunction to halt TKR's plans to move the full-time news channel to a part-time slot.

As it stands now, on Oct. 8, TKR will air the FOX News Network on Channel 25 and switch WZBN to three half-hour slots on Channel 8.

The move, protested by hundreds of county residents, would limit WZBN's advertising capabilities and ultimately put the station out of business, said WZBN President Greg Zanoni.

"The only thing we have now that's really going to do anything is the lawsuit," said Zanoni. "I have no options. If they win then we'll really have to regroup and see what possibly we can do."

Yet the area general manager for TKR said he offered the station alternatives and criticized it for using the broadcast for self-promotion.

Darren Belick said his offer to air the prerecorded newscast from midnight until 6 a.m. and then four more times throughout the day was refused.

"If WZBN is not there to provide a local news source," Belick said, "we will step up to fill that void."

"TKR was not incorporated to put WZBN in business," Belick said. "We're incorporated to provide a community service. If they go away, my commitment to the community is that there will be a local news outlet."

Since the announcement of TKR's plans, cable subscribers and various community organizations have been staging protests to show support for WZBN.

SU

DETROIT (AP) —

Roger Clemens matched the only pitcher who ever has struck out 20 — himself.

The Red Sox right-hander equaled his own major league record last night, fanning 20 batters and pitching a four-hitter to lead Boston over the Detroit Tigers 4-0.

"You can't take anyone for granted," Clemens said of the Tigers, who at .254 have the lowest batting average in the AL. "I just feel very fortunate, very blessed."

Clemens (10-12) set the strike-out record at Fenway Park on

Expos pr

MONTREAL (AP) — Moises Alou scored his second straight three-hit game, leading the Expos to a 5-1 win over the Mets when F.P. Santangelo was hit a pitch with the bases loaded as Montreal beat the Mets 4-3 last night.

Alou, who had three hits in a game over the Mets on Tuesday night, leadoff walk from Dave Mlicki (6-1) stole second as Henry Rodriguez out. Rondell White walked and

Stankiewicz pinch-hit and loaded the bases for Mlicki to hit Santangelo.

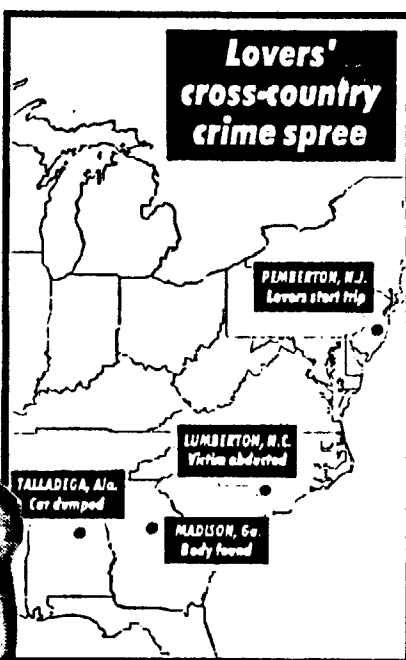
an 0-2 pitch, forcing in Alou and New York to its fourth straight loss.

Montreal, which begins a five-game series with first-place Atlanta on Friday, won for the sixth time in seven games, moving 17 games over .500 for the first time this season, kept pace with San Francisco in the NL wild-card race.

Ugueth Urbina (9-5), who allowed Baerga's game-tying homer in the eighth, worked two innings for the Expos. Rojas got the last three outs for the Expos.

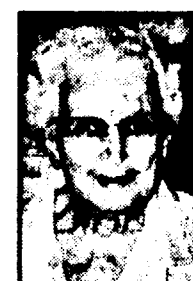
Lance Johnson led off the Mets' first





Trentonian Photo/
APRIL ADAMSON

Alicia Woodward left her mother's home to move to this Pemberton house with her boyfriend, John Esposito.



LOLA DAVIS:
Victim

already been compared to infamous murderers Mickey and Mallory Knox, whose twisted tale was told in the violent cult movie "Natural Born Killers."

And like the real "Natural Born Killers," Woodward and Esposito, last spotted fleeing across country in a stolen car Saturday, are the focus of a nationwide murder investigation.

Yesterday, as a detective stood watch in a car outside the family's Marlon home, the 18-year-old's mother caught a plane to Georgia to join police in the search.

The search for the "Natural Born Killers" began on Thursday, just hours after the duo allegedly carjacked 85-year-old Lola Davis of Lumberton, N.C., as she put groceries in her car.

Woodward's broken-down 1986 Pontiac Grand Am was discovered in the parking lot of the Winn-Dixie supermarket there, where Davis was last seen.

Davis' body was discov-

guy. They stood on the quiet, residential street, whispering and staring at her house.

One man recalled that he'd turned down Woodward's offers to babysit his children, because he thought she might "have problems," and "didn't like the way she looked."

"Everyone was surprised to hear she was involved in something like this," said Steve Richard, who lives near the Woodwards on Lakeside Drive.

"That's what happens when you hang out with the wrong people," he said.

But 15 miles away, in a small, run-down, two-family house in a crime-ridden section of Pemberton Township, residents there revealed Woodward's secret second life.

Neighbors of the Lemmon Street home the couple shared described Woodward, an attractive brunette with dark eyes and pale skin, as an "unstable" teen, who was allegedly

(Continued on Page 11)

City fathers support embattled TV station

By CHIP SCUTARI
The Trentonian

Trenton Mayor Doug Palmer yesterday joined the chorus of concerned cable customers in Mercer County, railing against the impending demise of a local television station.

Since last month, family-run WZBN has been resisting the plans of a local cable giant to move the news station from a full-time operation to a part-time program.

"Without WZBN, we lose one of the most critical means of communications and public information in the Capital-City area," Palmer

said. "They are a critical voice, and we cannot afford to see it silenced."

Starting on Oct. 8 — unless a legal remedy is found — cable company TKR will air FOX News Network on Channel 25 and move WZBN to Channel 8.

If a recently filed court injunction against TKR proves unsuccessful, the local station would have only eight hours of programming, with six of those hours being between 12 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Despite the impassioned rhetoric, TKR General Manager Darren Belick said the move is a "programming decision and not a political

decision."

"They are not a 24-hour channel," Belick said. "They produce less than 1 percent of locally produced, non-duplicative programming in any given week."

"More than 75 percent of the air time is dedicated to a national news network."

Belick said TKR isn't trying to put the local news station out of business — just make their cable company stronger.

But WZBN officials say the plans would hamper their ability to sell advertising and ultimately put the station out of business.

Joining Palmer, City Council President Bill Young lent his personal support to WZBN's local programming.

"They play an integral part in providing a service to Mercer County residents," said Young, who sat next to Palmer at yesterday's City Hall press conference. "We have to find a way to keep WZBN on the air."

Throughout the station's month-long battle for survival, county residents have flooded the station with hundreds of letters and scores of calls supporting the TV outlet.

In addition to the cable cus-

tomers, state legislators and local lawmakers have thrown their political weight behind the Hamilton Township station.

For the past three years, WZBN has aired a 22-minute broadcast — every half hour from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. — making it easy for everyone to get a look at local events and issues.

Despite WZBN's dim prospects, station President Greg Zanoni said he remains upbeat.

"Our lawyers are confident that it will stand up in court," Zanoni said. "I think we're in good shape."

Trentonian Sept. 24, 1986



I of her class

Mercer teacher of the year

- Instead of merely looking at them and repeating them from a page.
 - It's innovative, nontraditional teaching techniques like this that won Borgia the township and county teacher of the year awards, and put her in contention for the state trophy.
 - "I've been doing it for two years," Borgia said from her brightly decorated Morgan
- see BORGIA, A8

Extending a hand to worried parents

By JOHN J. EDWARDS III
Staff Writer

EWING — Jim Lunetta has spent decades working with troubled kids on local streets, in institutions and in his own home, and he says his experiences have taught him more than a few things about how to keep young people on the right track.

Lunetta, a former Mercer County sheriff's officer, now heads a 2-month-old security and investigation firm called Force

One. The firm will offer the usual private-eye and bodyguard services, but it will also offer aid to worried parents in the form of its "Kids in Trouble" program.

The program will get under way Oct. 15 with the opening of a crisis hotline for Mercer County parents, (609) 771-9780. Lunetta said he and his small but growing staff will provide counseling and referrals on children's behavior problems. Force One will also offer free assistance in tracking down runaways.

"Regardless of the problem that they have, we want (parents) to know that

there's a friend in Force One," Lunetta said. "They can always come to us in confidentiality and we'll — within the guidelines of laws, that's important — we'll intercede for them. With other agencies as need be, with parents as need be."

Kids in trouble will focus squarely on the interaction of parents and children, which Lunetta said isn't always addressed by social service agencies.

"It has to be on the level where the par-

• see LUNETTA, A8

<http://www.nj.com/mercer>

mercerweb

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WZBN wins reprieve from bid to cut hours

By EMILY J. HORNADAY
Staff Writer

TRENTON — WZBN Channel 25 lives.

A Superior Court judge yesterday ruled that the local television station in Hamilton will remain on TKR Cable without interruption — at least for the time being.

"(WZBN) seeks to maintain the status quo, ... and I find that is justified," concluded Judge Samuel D. Lenox Jr.

Lenox granted the station a temporary injunction blocking TKR Cable Co. from slashing the hours it carries WZBN broadcasts and from moving it to a different channel beginning Monday at 11:59 p.m.

The injunction will remain in effect until either the companies reach a settlement or the issue is resolved by a jury during a civil trial.

In a strongly worded opinion, Lenox concluded that he found it "probable" that WZBN would prevail at trial.

Greg Zanoni, WZBN president and owner, attended yesterday's hearing along with his sister, Doreen Damico, who is the station's vice president, and their father, Louis Zanoni, who is chief operating officer of the station.

"We're relieved, but there's still a long way to go," Greg Zanoni said after the ruling.

• see WZBN, A4

Reply Comments of
W25AW (WZBN TV-25)
November 20, 1996

EXHIBIT "C"

Samples Of Individually Written Letters In Support Of WZBN

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3001

September 10, 1996

Mr. Darin Belich
General Manager
TKR Cable Company
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08619

Dear Mr. Belich:

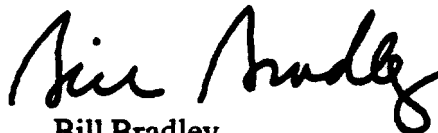
I write to express my support for WZBN, the local television station in Hamilton Township. I understand that TKR Cable Company is considering a plan that would eliminate WZBN's current 24-hour broadcasting format.

WZBN provides the residents of Hamilton Township and the surrounding area with an important source of local news. Because New Jersey is located between two of the largest media markets in the nation, local news providers in New Jersey often face enormous challenges to disseminating their programming. Organizations such as WZBN attempt to provide news that is focused on communities in our state, and as such they are very important to New Jerseyans.

I understand that legal action may ensue on this matter; this letter is in no way intended as an opinion on current or future legal proceedings.

I hope you will consider the importance of local programming to communities such as Hamilton Township as you make your decision regarding WZBN, as well as other important sources of local programming in New Jersey. I appreciate your attention to this matter, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Bill Bradley
United States Senator

BB/lmm

SENT BY:

8-30-96 12:01PM

009 587 0011.7 2/ 2

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
4TH DISTRICT - NEW JERSEY

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2270 HAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3004
(202) 225-3785

CONSTITUENT SERVICE CENTERS
1720 GREENWOOD AVENUE
HAMILTON, NJ 08608-2306
(609) 590-2900
TTY: (609) 290-1673

100 LANTANA BLVD.
SUITE 300
WINDYBROOK, NJ 08799-1311
(908) 350-2300



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3004

COMMITTEES:

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
CHAIRMAN -- INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND
HUMAN RIGHTS
WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
VICE CHAIRMAN
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CARE

**COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE**
CHAIRMAN

August 27, 1996

Hamilton TKR Co.
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Hamilton Township, NJ 08619
ATTENTION: Darren Belick, General Manager

Dear Mr. Belick:

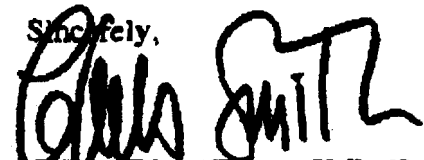
Area residents and subscribers of TKR cable were recently informed of a major decision by your cable company that would nearly eliminate WZBN-TV -- our local channel that provides news and coverage of Mercer County area events. I believe that many -- if not most -- subscribers to TKR are quite unhappy with this decision, as Channel 25 airs quality public affairs and news that cannot be seen elsewhere.

The judgment by TKR to replace our local channel with a new national news channel ignores the growing trend of servicing local interests. Mercer County does not need a mere duplication of the national network broadcasts -- we need local programming in our news, not redundant "networking" from our televisions.

The "Mercer County Update" and "Mercer County's Most Wanted" ought to be aired along with WZBN's extensive coverage of local sporting events, 24 hours a day. As telecommunications technology is now stronger than ever, most cable companies are expanding the number of channels available to their customers, not vice versa.

The Mercer County Freeholders and many area residents have already made their voices heard to TKR. As the U.S. Congressman representing the Fourth District -- and a viewer in my home and offices -- I respectfully request that TKR retains the 24 hour-a-day coverage of Hamilton Township's own WZBN.

Sincerely,


CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
Member of Congress

United Way

of Greater
Mercer County

3131 Princeton Pike
Building 4 • Suite 113
P.O. Box 6193
Lawrenceville, N.J. 08648-0193

Phone #
(609) 896-1912
FAX #
(609) 895-1245

September 3, 1996

Mr. Paul Freas
President
TKR Cable Company
67 B Mountain Blvd. Ext.
Warren, New Jersey 07059


Dear Mr. Freas:

First of all I would like to thank you for TKR Cable's outstanding contributions to United Way. Your company has always been community-minded. That is why I am so disappointed that our local TKR has decided to move WZBN from its present full time channel 25 and replace it with FOX news channel. WZBN will then have a part-time presence on local channel 8. It is my understanding that this move will result in lost advertising revenue which will cause the station to cease existence.

Organizations like United Way depend on the generosity of others to exist, but we have to have a medium to get the word out. WZBN has come through for us. The station has been paramount in its assistance. Mercer County residents are better informed because of WZBN. Residents get a better understanding of local issues, nonprofits and the like because of the station's community coverage.

WZBN makes our community better because it celebrates the good people, organization and issues in greater Mercer County. For a true community service to your patrons, please keep WZBN on as full-time status where it belongs on Channel 25.

Sincerely,


Craig E. Lafferty
President

cc: Darren Belick



New Jersey Capital Area Chapter
707 Alexander Road, Suite 101
Princeton, New Jersey 08540-6399
(609) 951-8550 • Fax: (609) 951-9787

August 29, 1996

Mr. Paul Freas
President
TKR Cable Company
67 B Mountain Blvd. Ext.
Warren, N.J. 07059

Dear Mr. Freas:

I am writing you to *strongly* protest the possible removal of WBZN TV-25 from its full time channel status on the TKR Cable Company of Hamilton's programming.

For more than three years WBZN TV-25 has provided valuable local TV news coverage of the Mercer County area that is not available through any other news source. Thanks to WBZN's news coverage, the Red Cross is able to reach viewing audiences. Without WBZN, the Red Cross would not have had the local exposure that is so important to our constituents who also happen to be your subscribers.

I urge that you will keep WBZN TV-25 as a full time channel on the TKR cable system as an important service to the subscribers of TKR in Hamilton, New Jersey.

Sincerely,

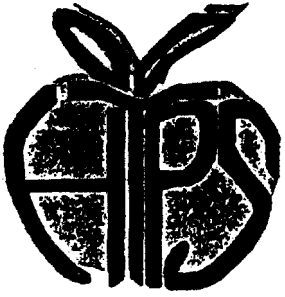
A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Novak".

David J. Novak
Director of Marketing
and Communication

cc: Darren P. Belick, TKR GM

DJN/jf

Help Can't Wait
Leading the way in Community Service



Board of Education
HAMILTON TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

90 Park Avenue • Hamilton, NJ 08690

(609)-890-3723

Fax#: (609)-584-8842

Neil A. Bencivengo
Interim Superintendent

August 26, 1996

TKR Cable Company
Daren Belick, General Manager
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Hamilton, New Jersey 08619

Dear Mr. Belick:

This letter is being written in support of the current cable programming timeframe dedicated to station WZBN by TKR Cable Company. We object to any changes in your programming that will affect the present status of WZBN. Any changes that are less than we currently experience will be inadequate for Hamilton Township residents to view local Mercer County news, information, and weather. We thoroughly enjoy watching WZBN's program, the convenient way it is scheduled, and the way they cover Mercer County, especially Hamilton Township.

Sincerely,

Neil A. Bencivengo

Neil A. Bencivengo
Superintendent

Henry D. Hays - Principal - Wilber Sch.

Anthony M. Armenti, Director

Richard C. Pierson

Principal - Robinson School

Darryl B. Burt

Principal - Moravia School

Henry J. Kille

Principal - Sayre School

Michael G. Maglione

Principal - Madison School

Dave McWilliam - Grace Middle School

Chris Bransa
University Heights School

Ernie Hogan - Principal
Yardville

Frank S. Sussman - Principal
Hamilton High - East

Carmela Cocca - Principal
Allegan School

John Talento - Principal
Kistler



THE LATINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF MERCER COUNTY, INC.

653 Centre Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08611 609-599-1172

August 28, 1996

Darren Belick
General Manager
TKR Cable Company of Hamilton
2317 Hamilton Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08619

Dear Mr. Belick:

The Latino Chamber of Commerce of Mercer County, Inc., a non-profit commerce organization, would like to add its name and voice in support of continuing the airing of WZBN-TV 25 on TKR Cable Company of Hamilton. The Latino Chamber of Commerce of Mercer County consisting of 110 Latino businesses in the Mercer County area is committed to the economic and social development of our members and the community for whom those businesses serve.

WZBN-TV 25 has been instrumental in providing information regarding news, issues and concerns which have an impact on Mercer County's growing Latino community. Whereas other television outlets and the media in general have not always noticed Latinos and the positive contributions that we offer to the society and have treated our community all too often as invisible men and women, WZBN-TV 25 has demonstrated an awareness and sensitivity in covering Mercer's Latino community. WZBN-TV 25's contribution and service to our community has been invaluable. In addition to the Latino community having a positive perception of WZBN-TV 25, we believe other members of the larger community also share a similar opinion of WZBN-TV 25. Be it high school sports, political campaign coverage or local weather, WZBN-TV 25 has made Mercer County first.

Another factor which we believe is important and should not be overlooked is that WZBN-TV 25 begins its coverage of Mercer County news at 10:00 PM whereas most other stations do not present their night time news coverage until 11:00PM. Many parents like for their children to see the news and learn current events. However, many feel 11:00 PM is too late for their children to remain up to watch the news. Once again, WZBN-TV 25 provides an invaluable service to another special needs population, education minded parents and their school age children. For these reasons and many more we urge you not to remove WZBN-TV 25 from the programming offered by TKR.

On behalf of the Latino Chamber of Mercer County and the significant number of Latinos living in Hamilton, we add our voice and support of the station which has covered and supported our community, WZBN-TV 25, Mercer County's Local News Channel.

We thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Freddie Rosado
President

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



SAMUEL J. PLUMERI, JR.
SHERIFF

MERCER COUNTY COURT HOUSE
P.O. Box 8068
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08650-0068

August 22, 1996

Mr. Darren P. Belick
General Manager
TKR Cable
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Hamilton, N.J. 08619

Dear Mr. Belick:

I am writing to you regarding the front page headline story in today's Times that TKR plans to reduce WZBN's broadcast from a 24-hours-a-day to one hour.

By reducing WZBN's ability to broadcast it's local programming, TKR is effectively denying the residents of Hamilton Township as well as Mercer County information that directly impacts the community. WZBN's local news broadcast has kept the public informed on issues that affect them. The Mercer County Update is news that is germane to the daily life of people who live, work and have businesses in Hamilton Township and the surrounding communities of Mercer County. As a local program, WZBN has highlighted school sports and community services thus enhancing a sense of community pride.

From a very personal viewpoint, WZBN's "Mercer's Most Wanted" has provided law enforcements officials in Mercer County with an avenue for citizens to participate and contribute to the safety of their communities and neighborhoods. To date, almost 80 fugitives have been captured as a direct result of WZBN's production of "Mercer's Most Wanted". As Sheriff of Mercer County and a law enforcement professional for almost 30 years, I am confident that WZBN's commitment to community broadcasting has contributed significantly to law enforcement's job in apprehending criminals.



MERCER COUNTY LABOR UNION COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

REPRESENTS THE LOCAL UNIONS IN THE AREA AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

13 ROCK ROYAL ROAD, YARDVILLE, NJ 08620

Work - 586-9093
Home - 585-6152

Labor Consociatus

Officers

DONALD B. DILEO
President
AFSCME

BILL HOLDER
Vice-President
Community Services
AFSCME

JIM KRAEMER
Vice-President
Building Trades
IBEW

ROBERT DIBIANCO
Vice-President
Industrial Unions
USWA

JOHN KELLY
Vice-President
Public Employees
CWA

CHARLES WHALEN, JR.
General Vice-President
Plumbers

WAYNE DeANGELO
Secretary
IBEW

JIM TARLAU
Treasurer
CWA

Trustees

CLIFF REISSER
WAYNE COVELL
ART SIELICKI

Sgt.-at-Arms

JON WINELAND
CWA

Executive Board

MIKE MALONEY
Plumbers 9

JEFF BINZ
UAW 731

MICHAEL ZAGOLA
Carpenters 31

FRANK SORCE
USWA 3355

PETER CERENZO
CWA 1032

GEORGE POULOS
HERE 54

LORENZO CANAZARES
CWA 1040

MATT WURPEL
GCIU 70

BERTHA TILLMAN
CWA 1034

CHRIS GOLDEN
Carpenters 781

ANTHONY DARTIGILO
Teamsters 35

THOMAS J. DUNN
President Emeritus

LOU PERSICO
Vice-President Emeritus

September 6, 1996

Mr. Darren Belick
General Manager, TKR Cable
2137 Hamilton Ave.
Mercerville, N.J. 08619

Dear Mr. Belick;

I would like to address the proposed cancellation of the W.Z.B.N. service on TKR Cable. This local news service is a community asset and a service to the residents of Hamilton Township.

The Mercer County AFL-CIO represents 45,000 working men and women in Mercer County. If you add their families you are looking at a market of over 150,000 local residents. A great majority of this market live in Hamilton.

I speak for all of our members and their families in demanding you reinstate the W.Z.B.N. service. While you publicly pronounce this cancellation as a business decision, this is a bad business decision. You are severely damaging your relations with your customers.

THE AFL-CIO FAMILIES THAT ARE YOUR CUSTOMERS WANT THE RETURN OF W.Z.B.N. TO THEIR CABLE SYSTEM.

William Holder
Vice President

A Real Voice on the Job

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE AFL-CIO LEADING THE FIGHT FOR AMERICA'S WORKING FAMILIES



Hamilton Jaycees

September 3, 1996

TKR
Darren Bellick, General Manager
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Hamilton, NJ 08619

Dear Mr. Bellick:

On behalf of the Hamilton Jaycees, I would like to express my disappointment regarding the cancellation of WZBN.

Being a recognized Hamilton Township community organization we need not be reminded of the importance of community based activities and the reporting of these activities. Which WZBN did in a creative way.

WZBN displayed excellent exposure of all Hamilton Township and Mercer County events and activities.

I can only conclude with your organization taking a look at what you are canceling and how it will impact Hamilton Township. Please take a closer look.

Thank you for you time.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. O'Neill
4th President

PO Box 10149 Hamilton, New Jersey 08650



TRENTON MUNICIPAL COURT

P.O. BOX 1360
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08607

R. Kevin McGrory
Chief Judge

September 16, 1996

609-989-3719

Mr. Darren P. Bellick, General Manager
TKR Cable Company
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Hamilton Twp., New Jersey 08619

Re: WZBN - TV 25

Dear Mr. Bellick:

On behalf of the Judges and Staffmembers of the City of Trenton Municipal Court I am writing to express our serious concern regarding TKR Cable Company's decision to, in effect, cause some 90,000 residents of our City and thousands more in our County to lose our friend and adviser in the world of television news journalism. In this day and age when so many individuals rely on information gleaned from television news as opposed to that of print journalism, the ability to learn of local events, achievements, occurrences and all matter of happenings makes WZBN-TV 25's existence essential to the citizens of our local community. WZBN-TV 25 has performed, in our estimation, a remarkable job of covering local news in the Trenton - Mercer area without benefit of a extensive budget but certainly with a firm determination to cover events and to engage in active and fair journalistic practices much to the delight of thousands and thousands of its local viewers.

I would respectfully request that you as General Manager of TKR Cable Company reconsider your intended actions and allow WZBN-TV 25 to continue to be on the cutting edge of news in the Mercer County area. To deprive the citizens of Mercer County of a first rate news organization would not only be unfortunate but in the long run indefensible as an informed public is a knowledgeable public.

My own personal experiences with the staff of WZBN-TV 25 lead me to conclude that their professionalism is every bit as sharp and proficient as those

of the larger Philadelphia and New York television stations that we receive here in Trenton. The reporters have become like family members to thousands of citizens here in Mercer County and they will be sorely missed should your decision to delete the news coverage of WZBN-TV 25 be final.

I like to think that virtually nothing is cut in stone, particularly when it comes to people. I know your decision was well intentioned and was made in a business like manner and I in no way impugn your motives. I simply ask that you reconsider your decision and on behalf of the citizens of Mercer County allow us to have our own television news program so that we can truly be a fully informed public.

Very truly yours,


Kevin McGrory, P.J.M.C.
Trenton Municipal Court

cc: WZBN-TV25



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

8th FIRE DISTRICT, HAMILTON TOWNSHIP

801 Kuser Road
Hamilton, New Jersey 08619
(609) 586-5454

TKR Cable
2137 Hamilton Ave.
Hamilton, New jersey 08619
Att: Darren Belick, GM

September 11, 1996

Dear Belick,

On September 3, 1996, the Board of Fire Commissioner voted to go on record in support of WZBN and its' efforts to remain a full time news station. The Board of Fire Commissioners is particularly concern that there will be no local news station that is completely devoted to the news in Mercer County if WZBN is taken off the air. There are times when it is imperative that the fire and rescue service get its' message out to all residents of Mercer County such as the recent flooding in Ewing Township. All municipalities at one time or another has had a disaster. These communities were in need of TV news coverage to help get disaster relief information to its' residence. TV stations from Philadelphia or New York do not give the in-depth coverage that is need to get the fire service's message out to local residents who may be in need of disaster relief. WZBN is such a TV station that tells local residents where they might seek assistance such as emergency shelter and/or help from the Red Cross.

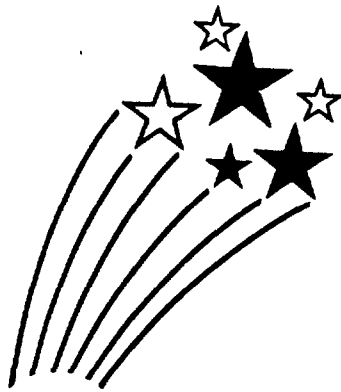
In Mercer County the fire service is mostly volunteer. Only Trenton has a completely paid department. As you know volunteering is on the decline both in this country and in Mercer County. WZBN, by its' coverage of local events, helps in the recruitment of new volunteers in the fire service. By keeping the fire service volunteer the property taxes are kept from escalating to a point where senior citizens and people with low income can afford to own their own home. Escalating taxes are a concern of all county property owners. TKR could, in an indirect way, be a contributing factor in fostering volunteering in the fire service thus helping keep down property taxes.

WZBN is the local station that deals primary with local news. It is imperative to the volunteer fire service to have this resource at its' disposal. If you are truly a community minded business who is interested in the needs of the community for which you serve, you will continue broadcasting WZBN on a 24 hour bases.

Yours in the fire service,

Robert W. Kelliher
Clerk of the Board

c: WZBN
file



"Reaching For The Stars"

Kuser School PTA
70 Newkirk Avenue
Hamilton Township, N.J. 08629
(609) 890-3750

September 22, 1996

Mr. Darren Belick, General Manager
TKR Cable Company
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08619

Dear Mr. Belick:

As President of the Kuser School PTA, I write you today, representing 415 families of Kuser Elementary School. We as parents of these students are asking you to please reconsider replacing WZBN Channel 25 with the FOX station. WZBN has covered events which have taken place at our school on so many occasions, and the children, parents, grandparents, friends, neighbors, etc. seeing those events coming to life on television, has resulted in sometimes the greatest pleasure a person could ever imagine.

The students at Kuser School are currently participating in the third year of a "Conflict Resolution" program which is incorporated in their curriculum. Someday, Kuser Elementary School hopes to make a difference in the world. WZBN has been a "Partner in Peace" with us by passing this information on to other residents in the Mercer County area, by broadcasting our events. We may be small - but we are mighty and we can make a difference. I know FOX will not be at our next assembly, broadcasting for the Mercer County residents to see; however, if WZBN isn't replaced, I can guarantee you they will be there!

Again, I ask you on behalf of the 415 families of Kuser Elementary School to please reconsider your decision and please keep WZBN on a full-time basis on channel 25. Included with this letter are names of our parents opposing the idea of bringing FOX to channel 25.

I thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you positively.

Sincerely,

Karen Spair

Karen Spair
PTA President
Kuser School

kjs
enclosure

cc: WZBN ✓

New Jersey State Policeman's Benevolent Association, Inc.



Hamilton Police P.B.A.
1270 Whitehorse Avenue
Hamilton, NJ 08619

Local 66
Charter 1927

Office (609) 585-5892
HQ (609) 581-4000
FAX (609) 581-4096



Darren Belick
TKR General Manager
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Hamilton Township N.J. 08619

September 4, 1996

Mr. Belick,

My name is J. Kevin Elmer, and I am the President of the Hamilton Twp Policemen's Benevolent Association (PBA) Local #66. I am writing this letter to you on behalf of the one hundred sixty eight (168) men and women of our local and their families.

We are very concerned with your decision to move WZBN to a different channel with less broadcasts. You are dealing WZBN, as well as the community you service, a grave injustice by removing WZBN from its regular programming slots.

This letter is to let you know that we, PBA #66 and our families support WZBN one hundred percent and want WZBN to stay right where it is. We are prepared to do whatever it takes to assist WZBN in their fight to stay on the air where they belong.

In closing, we ask you Mr. Belick, to please reconsider your decision and do what is right, listen to the people that you service and keep WZBN as is.

Thank You,

J. Kevin Elmer

J. Kevin Elmer

President, PBA Local #66

The Township of
Washington Mercer County



1117 U.S. Route 130
Robbinsville, New Jersey 08691

Telephone
(609) 259-7082

Fax
(609) 259-6032

August 23, 1996

Darren P. Belick, General Manager
TKR Cable
2137 Hamilton Avenue
Hamilton Township, N. J. 08619

Re: WZBN TV-25 Coverage

Dear Mr. Belick:

I was very dismayed to learn, both through media coverage and personal contact with representatives of the station, that you plan to reduce the WZBN coverage to one hour per day in order to make way for FOX News. It has been my personal experience that WZBN provides an invaluable service to the residents of Washington Township by its coverage of local issues.

As we begin the review process for renewal of your franchise in Washington Township, as you well know, we will be doing an in-depth examination of your past performance as well as looking at the future cable-related needs of the community.

Again, Washington Township feels that WZBN provides the kind of news coverage that is vital to our community and its residents, and strongly suggest that you reconsider your decision.

Very truly yours,

Glen Beebe
Township Committee

GB:bd

cc: Township Committee Members
Michael W. Dill, Administrator
Lou Zaroni
Greg Zaroni
WZBN
Trenton Times
Messenger Press

Nancy L. Tindall
Mayor
Rosemary E. Pramuk
Deputy Mayor
Glen Beebe
Township Committee
Joseph Odenheimer
Township Committee
Vincent J. Calcagno
Township Committee

Michael W. Dill,
CMFO
Township Administrator

Bernadette M.
Dubuss,
RMC, CMC, AAE
Township Clerk



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

HARRIET DERMAN
Commissioner

August 30, 1996

Greg Zaroni
WZBN TV-25
2600 East State Street Extension
Trenton, NJ 08619-3320

Dear Greg:

I am writing to express my appreciation for the assistance you provided to the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety in helping us to prepare for Fire Prevention Week (October 6-12). Thanks to your efforts, we will be able to reach hundreds of thousands of cable television viewers with important and potentially life-saving fire safety educational information.

Thank you again for the contribution you have made to the welfare of communities throughout New Jersey.

Kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Matcho
Supervisor of Public Education
New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

cc: Paul Freas, President
TKR Cable Company
67 B Mountain Blvd. Ext.
Warren, NJ 07059

Darren P. Belick, TKR GM
2137 Hamilton Ave.
Hamilton Township, NJ 08619



Andrea Spillmann
11 Renfrew Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08618
September 9, 1996

Paul Freas, President
TKR Cable Company
67 B Mountain Blvd. Ext.
Warren, NJ 07059

Dear Mr. Freas,

Please don't cut back WZBN.
I believe that they are a great asset
to the community.

WZBN touches on events that affect
the average person's life in Mercer
County. There are many more positive
features on it than on any other news
station. This causes viewing by many more
concerned citizens, rather than just people
who watch the news for sensationalism.
I know many people who make an effort
to watch WZBN.

Children can watch a much higher
percentage of WZBN than of other news

stations, which makes it easier for parents to watch. They don't have to worry about their children going in a different room. Not only is WZBN child-friendly, but there is also a lot pertaining to children. That's good because it gives children who were on the program more confidence, and the children who watch the show more to live up to.

I have been on WZBN twice, so I know that they are very kind and courteous. They go to great extents to arrange a time that is good for you and them. Also, from the two times I was on WZBN, I know that many people watch it. There were many people who told me that they saw me on it, and I hadn't even told them.

When I watch WZBN, I come away with a good feeling. It is quite the opposite when I watch other news programs. Laura Jones, Tony Capputo, and Joey Waller seem like they really care about the topic they're covering. They add a personal touch to the news.